

REMARKS

Claims 32-50 are pending in this application. Claims 47-50 have been amended in the present response.

In the Office Action mailed September 26, 2003, claims 47-50 were rejected. More specifically, the status of the application in light of this Office Action is as follows:

(A) Claims 47-50 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph; and

(B) Claims 32-46 were allowed.

A. Response to the Section 112 Rejection

Claims 47-50 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Claim 47 has been amended to include features of and remove the reference to cancelled claim 26, without narrowing the scope of the claim. Claims 48-50 have been amended to improve the readability and/or clarify aspects of these claims, without narrowing the scope of these claims. Accordingly, the Section 112, second paragraph rejection of claims 47-50 should be withdrawn.

B. Allowed Claims

Claims 32-46 were allowed. Although the applicant's attorney agrees with the Examiner's conclusion that many of the claims in this application are allowable, the applicant's attorney notes that the claims may be allowable for reasons other than those identified by the Examiner and does not concede that the Examiner's characterization of the terms of the claims and the prior art are correct.

C. Conclusion

In light of the foregoing amendments and remarks, all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Applicant, therefore, requests reconsideration of the

application and an allowance of all pending claims. If the Examiner notices any informalities in the claims, he is encouraged to contact David Dutcher at (206) 359-6465 to expediently correct any such informalities.

Respectfully submitted,

Perkins Coie LLP



David Dutcher

Registration No. 51,638

Date: Dec. 18, 2003

Correspondence Address:

Customer No. 25096

Perkins Coie LLP

P.O. Box 1247

Seattle, Washington 98111-1247

(206) 359-8000